

CIA spying

linked

to Evanston

firm

monitored

elecasts

f radicals

Larry S. Finley
75, The Chicago Daily News

company that operates in Evanston and four other cities apparently has been used by Central Intelligence Agency in its domestic surveillance of American radicals and dissidents.

Radio and TV Reports Inc. allegedly provided the CIA with transcripts of the radio and television appearances of war activists, civil rights leaders and other dissidents suspected of subversive connections, a source in the intelligence community told The Chicago Daily News.

A CIA spokesman in Washington confirmed that the agency has been using Radio and TV Reports for "several years" to provide transcripts of appearances of persons of interest to the CIA.

The CIA spokesman, however, denied there was anything illegal about the use of the monitoring service. Recent transcripts purchased from the company were of a "general nature," the spokesman said.

AN OFFICIAL of Radio and TV Reports in New York flatly denied that his company had a contract with the CIA or any other government intelligence agency until he was confronted with the CIA's admission that they do use the company's services.

Reacting to reports of CIA domestic surveillance, President Ford recently appointed an eight-man commission, headed by Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller, to investigate the CIA.

Several congressional committees also are expected to begin their own independent investigations of the CIA, which is forbidden by law to conduct domestic surveillance.

RADIO and TV Reports is headquartered in New York and has offices in Washington, Los Angeles, Detroit and at 1723 W. Howard in Evanston.

Employees of the Evanston office refused to discuss their clients, referring all questions to the New York headquarters.

George Magee, spokesman for Radio and TV Reports, at first denied that his company had ever done any business with the CIA or any other intelligence group.

"That question I have no problem with," Magee said. "We have not, never have had, any contract with any government intelligence agency."

AFTER MAGEE was told that the CIA admitted using the company's services, Magee suggested that questions be made to the company's

president, David Fins, also in New York.

Fins was either "not available" or did not return any phone calls made to his office by The Daily News the last two weeks.

On Friday, Magee said Fins is "a very busy man" and suggested that any questions be mailed to him.

ALTHOUGH the CIA admitted it had used the company's services, it would not confirm nor deny allegations that it has used the company to keep tabs on the broadcast speeches of radicals.

"On your specific question, we just can't answer because the data aren't there," The spokesman said.

The CIA spokesman said his agency does not keep records on the subject of the transcripts purchased from Radio and TV Reports. But financial records, he said, indicated purchases from the company go back at least to

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CIA 4.01 @ Spying
Orig 1 Radio-TV
Reports, Inc.
Magee, George
Fins, DAVID
CIA 1.04 Marchetti
VICTOR
(Orig under
Finlay)